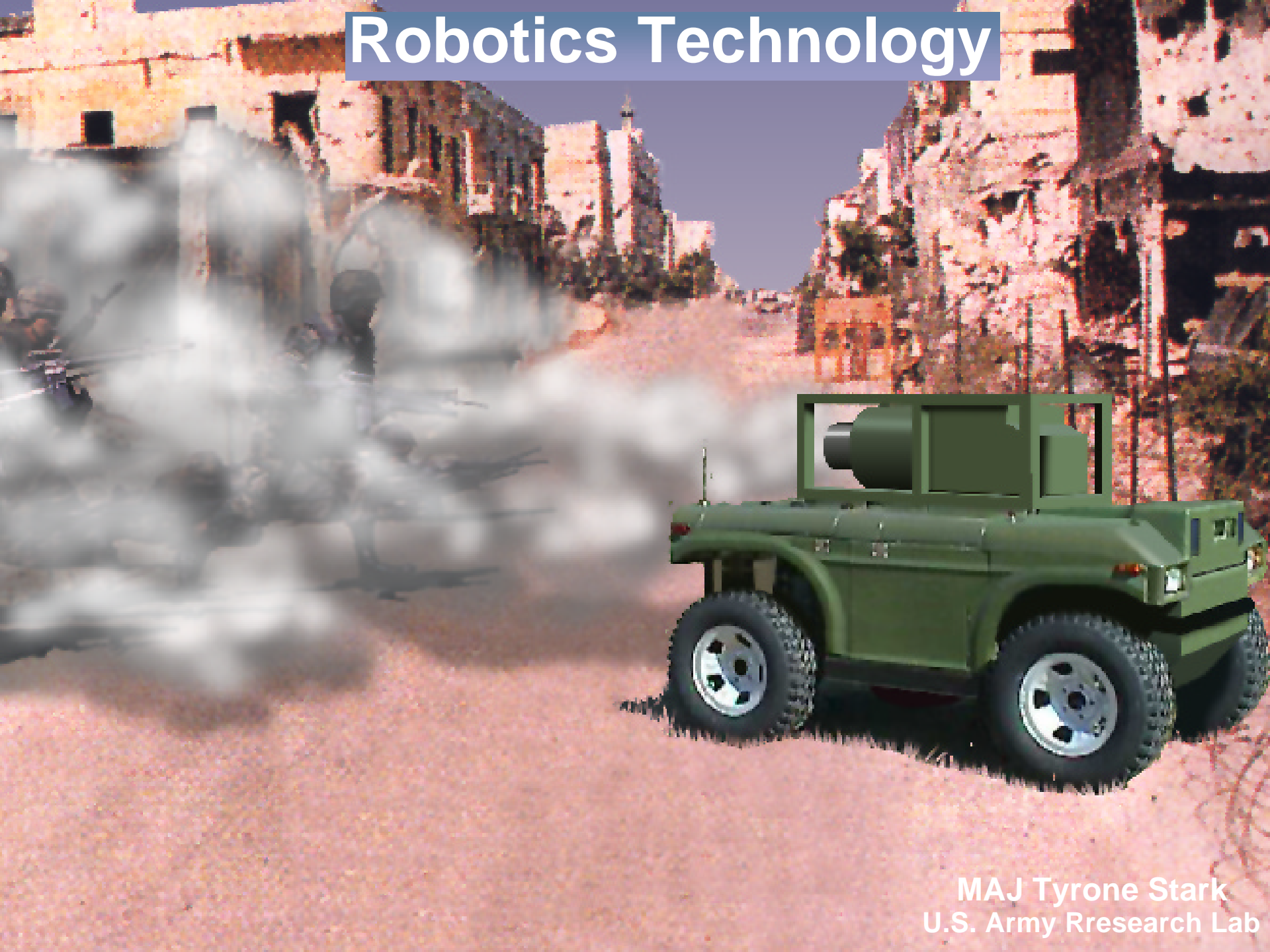


Robotics Technology



MAJ Tyrone Stark
U.S. Army Rresearch Lab



Army Robotics Research Program



Strategy to rapidly advance robotics technology

- **Focused research:**
 - Perception
 - Intelligent control
 - Soldier-robot interface
- **Field Experience:**
 - Conduct early & continuous field tests
 - Promote troop interaction to focus research & foster parallel TTP development
- **Technology Testbed:**
 - Develop multiple approaches now & down select later
 - Provide infrastructure to foster rapid technology advancement
- **Work with other agencies:**
 - Leverage other Government efforts (NASA, NIST, DOE, DARPA)
 - Partner with Industry & Academia
 - Robotics Collaborative Technology Alliance
 - Collaborate with allied governments
 - Data Exchange Agreements



Sep '99



Summer '00



Autumn '01

*Autonomous Land Navigation
for the Objective Force*



Demo III Video

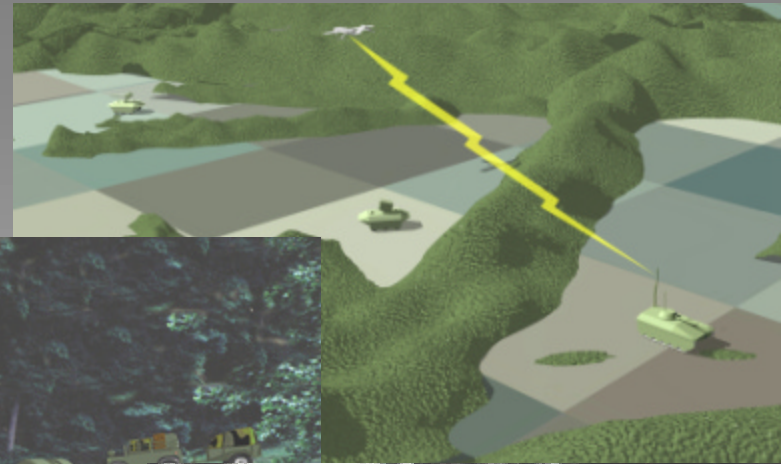
Key Points

- On and off-road operation
- High speed relative to platform size and look-down angle
- Beyond line-of-sight follower with obstacle avoidance
- Military non-line-of-sight communications
- Small HMMWV-based operator interface
- Off-road formation behaviors
- Modular mission packages

Demonstration Video



*Future applications for unmanned systems
will only be limited by imagination
and ingenuity...*





The Demo III XUV

Testbed for Advanced Autonomous Mobility Technology

Intelligent technology integration is the key to success



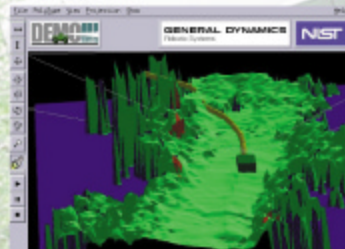
Laser Scanner

Object detection and sensing of local ground plane in close proximity to XUV



Stereo Vision

Passive object detection and sensing, especially for mid-range, from 50 to 500 meters



Local Path Planning

Rapid determination of optimal vehicle path based upon multi-factor cost maps



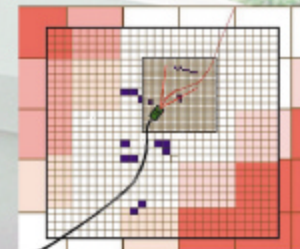
Operator Control Unit (OCU)

Small, modular man-machine interface and mission planning tools employing context sensitive pull down menus and standard military symbology



RSTA Sensors

Highly capable mission module enabling XUVs to participate in realistic military field exercises performing the scout mission to obtain troop feedback



World Model

Multi-resolution world model to optimize use of a priori and sensed environmental data for tactical and mobility planning



Technology Thrusts for the Future

Perception – Intelligent Control – Soldier-machine Interface



Near-Field Perception

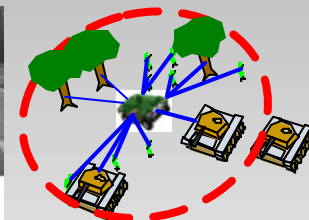
*Improved sensors
(Fol-Pen Radar, Ladar)
Object classification
Sensor fusion*



Soldier-Robot Interaction

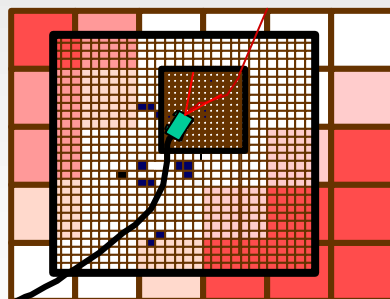
*Cognitive Load
Span of Control
Trust in Automation*

360° Safeguarding



Mid-Range Perception

*Sensors (Stereo, Radar)
Object Classification
Coarse mapping*



World Model

*Additional levels on vehicle
Richer information set – UAV data*

Road Following





The Army Robotics Research Program is advancing technology and working with soldiers



...to provide the technological foundation for tomorrow's unmanned ground vehicles

